

House (Tract #4610)

HABS No. MO-1236

.8 miles east of Route ZZ at Henry County line

Lowry City Vicinity

St. Clair County

Missouri

HABS,

MO.

93-LOWRY IT.V.

2-

PHOTOGRAPHS

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

## HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS No. MO-1236

## HOUSE (Tract #4610)

Location: 0.8 miles west of Route ZZ where it turns east at Henry County line, approximately 8.5 miles north-east of Lowry City, Lowry City vicinity, St. Clair County, Missouri.

USGS Valhalla Quadrangle, Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: 15.448290.422780.

Present Owner: United States Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District.

Present Use: Vacant.

Significance: These two houses connected at corners by covered porches form an unusual group, featuring board and batten siding on the exterior and interior metal cornices and ceilings.

PART I. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

## A. General Statement:

Condition of fabric: Both houses have been vacant for some time and are deteriorating rapidly.

## B. Description of Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions: The front building, which is one story high, has a three-bay front, 28' wide, by 27'-6" deep. The rear building, also one story, has a two-bay front, 14' wide, by 16' deep.
2. Foundations: The foundation of the front part of the house is rough sandstone blocks, not squared, set without mortar. As the site slopes considerably from rear to front, the foundation is higher in front than in back. The foundation for the one-room rear portion of the house is poured concrete. This rear portion is dug into the hillside at the rear and the concrete foundation follows the grade line, acting as a retaining wall at the rear of the house.
3. Wall construction: Exterior walls are sheathed with board and batten siding.

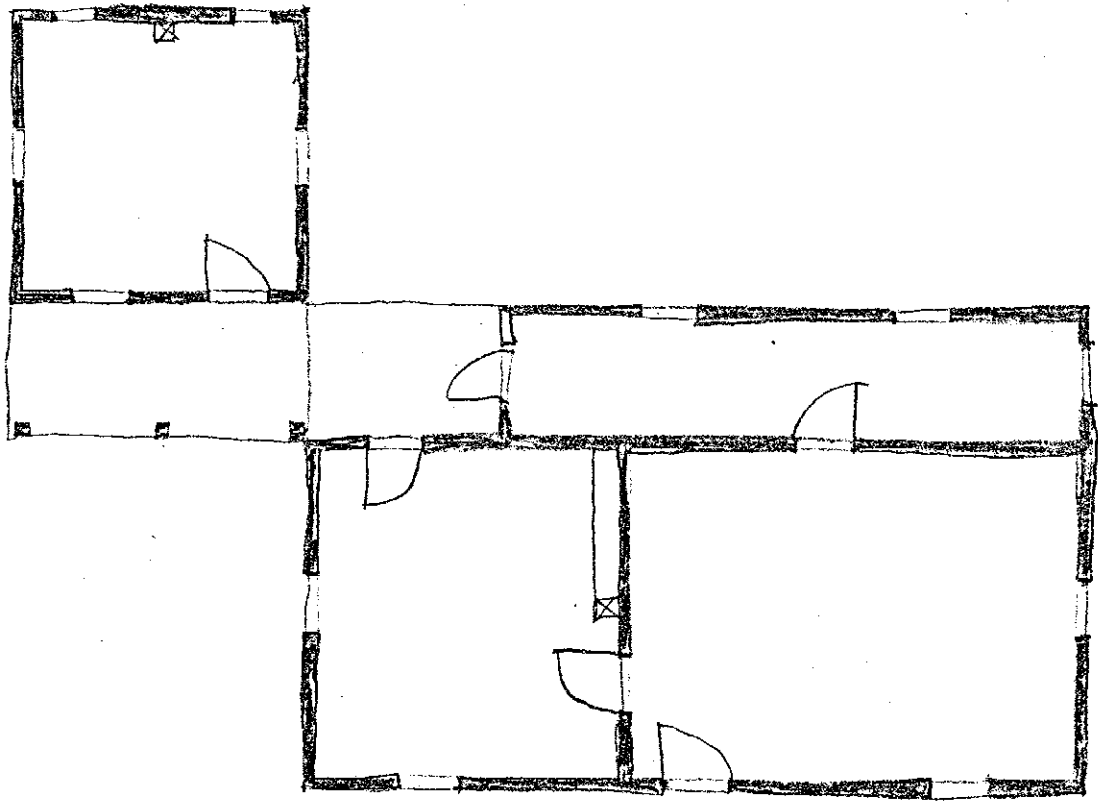
4. Structural system, framing: Balloon framing. The sill plates of the older front portion are heavy members, 3" x 3", mortised at the corners.
5. Porches: The front portion has a stoop of three steps at the front door. At the rear of the front portion is a wooden floored porch with a shed roof. The front of the rear portion has a concrete-floored porch which adjoins the rear porch of the front portion.
6. Chimneys: A centrally located brick stove chimney heats the original two rooms of the front portion. There is a brick stove chimney located at the center of the rear wall of the rear portion.
7. Openings:
  - a. Doorways and doors: The front door has a screen door with decorative spindles in the locking rail.
  - b. The front west window has two-over-two lights, one window at the rear in the shed roofed addition has four-over-four lights, and all other windows have one-over-one lights. All windows have double hung wood sashes.
8. Roof: The front portion has a gable roof with ridge running parallel to the front of the house. A shed roof with shallower slope covers the rear addition. The rear portion has a gable roof running perpendicular to the front of the house. The roof over the porch is hipped, rising to a point about halfway up the gable. All roofs are covered in corrugated sheet metal.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans: This house is actually two houses connected by open porches. The smaller one room house is connected by its front porch to the rear porch of the larger front house. The front portion has three rooms. Two are in the front (south) and the third room is across the rear. There is a small square roofed porch in the northwest corner of the house. This porch abuts the front porch of the smaller rear house which has one room.
2. Stairways: The stairway to the basement of the rear portion of the house is located in the middle of the porch.
3. Flooring: 6" wide wood flooring. In the west room of the older portion, a newer wooden floor was laid over the previous wooden floor.

4. Wall and ceiling finish: The walls are covered with wallpaper over plaster on wood lath. A partition separating the two original front rooms of the front portion of the house is made up of a single layer of vertical planks covered with wallpaper. Ceilings in the front portion of the house are 3 1/4" wide wood. The east front room of the front portion of the house has a cornice decoration of pressed metal egg-and-dart frieze on a convex molding. The rear portion has this same cornice as well as a ceiling of pressed metal panels.
  5. Doors: Doors have four vertical rectangular panels arranged two over two.
- D. Site: The house faces south and is approached by a gravel county road which runs south of the house. The house is set into a hillside and faces a broad field across the road.

Prepared by William Brookover  
Project Supervisor  
Historic American  
Buildings Survey  
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FLOOR PLAN # 4610

PART II. PROJECT INFORMATION

The Truman Reservoir Project was funded by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District, in compliance with Executive Order 11593 as a mitigative effort in the construction of the Harry S Truman Dam and Reservoir, in the summer of 1977. William Brookover (Columbia University), supervisor; Michael Connor (University of Virginia), team foreman; Gary Baker (Catholic University), Edwin Daniel (Mississippi State), and Gary Statkus (University of Illinois), Student architects; Paul Weed (Columbia University), architectural historian.